PATENT APPLICATION

Docket Number: 008312-00306986 Client Reference: T4MH-03S0232-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

he Application of Takeshi NAKANO et al. Group Art Unit: 2651

Application No.: 10/724,685

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Filed: December 2, 2003

Confirmation No.: 1970

For: DISK APPARATUS AND METHOD OF GENERATING A TRACKING ERROR SIGNAL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application in the attached Japanese Communication (Office Action) dated January 4, 2005, i.e., less than three months ago. An English language version of the foreign communication is attached for the Examiner's information. Both the English translation of the Japanese Communication and the English Abstracts for the references are relied upon to satisfy the requirement of a statement of relevance for the attached references.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey D. Karceski

Registration Number 35914 Telephone: (703) 905-2000 Facsimile: (703) 905-2500

Date: February 7, 2005

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP P.O. Box 10500 McLean, VA 22102

Customer Number: 00909

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